

## SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY

A large house with many additions that is shown in an atlas of 1877. What is believed to be its oldest portion is a one and a half story frame house with one room downstairs and one above. Later additions include a wing with cross-gable facade and parlors containing fine Victorian elements.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER 408 Delaware Ave.,  
Towson, Maryland

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Baltimore

STATE

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## ACCESSIBLE

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☒ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Smith

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

408 Delaware Ave.  
CITY, TOWN Towson, Md. 21204

VICINITY OF

Maryland 21204  
STATE, zip code**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Courts BuildingLiber #: See Attachment  
Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

401 Bosley Ave.

Towson

STATE  
Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Spring, 1978</u>

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY  
 #408 Delaware Ave., Towson, Md. 21204

Mrs. Caroline Smith has lived in this house for over fifty years. She says that she and her husband purchased the house from H. Rhipps who had acquired it from Butler's. The Hopkins Atlas of 1877 shows this property on the N.W. corner of Chesapeake and Delaware Aves. as belonging to "Saml. F. Butler."

The present structure is a rather large and rambling series of additions dating from different periods and it is curious to see that the Atlas shows a large building on this site which is cruciform in shape. The present plan corresponds by having a North section and middle section which telescope from N. to S. and a S. wing which forms a T by running E. to W. The store-fronts which project from the S. facade of the S. wing complete the cross-shape, however, Mr. Charles T. Smith says that they were added "about 20 years ago" and replaced a porch. In Bromley's map of 1915 this building is shown as L-shaped.

North Wing

Mrs. Smith says that the N. section of the building which now houses the kitchen has always been believed to be the oldest portion of the house. It is a true  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story frame structure with one room downstairs and one above. The E. facade is vented by an entrance and a 6/6 window on the first level and the second level has two  $3/3$  "knee windows". The upper room has a trapezoidal ceiling common to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story buildings. The lower room is furnished on the interior with vertical tongue-and-groove paneling between the floor and chair-rail. Enclosed stairs occupy the N.E. corner of the room and they have been altered to provide an exterior access to the upper room.

A chimney is on the outside of the S. wall. Mrs. Smith remembers having a wood stove and it appears to have only served a space heater, however, the same chimney did serve a

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

fireplace in the middle section.

There is no basement beneath this portion of the house.

#### MID SECTION

That this portion of the building is a separate addition from the cross gable wing in the South end is unproven at this time, however, its separate attic and different basement point towards this conclusion. It adds to the house a large room downstairs and a full second story room upstairs. The upper room was a bedroom and the lower room a living area. The lower room is finished with the same chair rail and tongue and groove paneling as in the N. wing and there is a fireplace which has been closed in. The fireplace is surrounded by an elaborate mantle piece that is decorated with Corinthian columns and a mirror. This section has large 6/6 windows that still have many panes of wavy glass.

There is a full basement beneath this section that is defined by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick stone walls.

#### SOUTH WING

The S. wing faces Chesapeake Ave. and in its original state was a two story cross-gable facade with a full porch on the first story. A Roman arch window vents the cross-gable. Like the other two sections this is a frame structure that was originally covered with clapboards. It rests upon a fairly high stone foundation and has a full cellar.

As is so common among cross-gable houses this one has a central hall plan with flanking parlors. The hall contains a stairs that makes an attempt at a "grand stairs." The bannister winds at the second story, there are scrolled step-ends and all of the woodwork is of a dark mahogany color.

The E. parlor has several nice features and in its original state approached elegance. A doorway connects to the hallway but the only thing keeping the downstairs room of the middle section and this room from forming one huge living area is a room divider at the junction of the two sections. The divider consists of two panels c.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " high that support two doric columns which are on either side of a central passage way. Such room dividers were common during the Victorian period and they quite often incorporated bookcases into the panels.

Like other rooms in the wing the E. parlor is further decorated with squared hollow mouldings and bulls-eye cornerblock. It is well lighted by large 6/6 windows which, like those in the middle section, retain many older panes of glass. The most elegant feature of the E. parlor, and one which again sets this wing off from the others, is its fireplace. It is a rounded arch coal burning fireplace. The surround and mantle are carved from dark green marble.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

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SPECIFIC DATES	Pre-1877	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A large house with many additions that is shown in an atlas of 1877. What is believed to be its oldest portion is a one and a half story frame house with one room downstairs and one above. Later additions include a wing with cross-gable facade and parlors containing fine Victorian elements.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. N'ELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Samuel F. Butler  
Family

<u>Tax Assessments 1876</u>	f. 35	<u>owners</u>	<u>assessors</u>
Ches. and Del. Aves. Lot 91x150		728	
Improvements		2203	2958
Ches. Ave. adj. public school Lot 1 acre		800	
Improvements		1000	1800
Furniture		580	
Livestock, carriage, harness		185	765
			<u>5523</u>

<u>Tax Assessments 1896</u>	Mrs. Mary Butler		
One lot 90x150 at corner of Ches. and Del. Aves.		1200	1875
Improvements Frame dwelling House		3000	2000
One lot 100x100 on south side Ches. Ave. east of public school		500	1000
Improvements three small houses at 600. each		1800	1500
Household effects		200	800
			<u>8175</u>

Administrations

Samuel F. Butler  
Recorded in book 2/524 March 23, 1874

Will

Samuel F. Butler  
Recorded in O.P.M. 4/449 March 23, 1875

Inventory

Samuel F. Butler  
Recorded in book 12/402

Samuel F. Butler, democrat, ran in 1870 for commisioner but the republican ticket won. pg. 898 in History of Baltimore City and County from Earliest Period to the Present Day by Thomas J. Scharf

Samuel F. Butler --carpenter pg. 477 in The State Gazette and Merchants and Farmers Directory for Md. and District of Columbia, Published by Sadler, Drysdale, and Purnell in Balt. in 1871.

The Butlers resided at 23 east Ches. Ave. according to the map of Towsontown in the Hopkins atlas of 1877.



1870 Census Data

Dwelling house #89, family #89 9th district

<u>Name of everyone living in house</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personal Estate</u>	<u>Other</u>
Samuel F.	43	M	W	carpenter	3500	500	male citizen of U.S. over 21
Mary	31	F	W	keeping house			
Benjamin P.	12	M	W				attended school within the year
Mary M.	3	F	W				
S. Baldwin	9/12	M	W				

## Inventory 12/402

Parlor

carpet	30.00
lace curtains	8.00
sofa	12.00
arm chair	9.00
2 arm chairs	14.00
4 chairs	10.00
marble top stand	3.00
ornaments	8.00
center table	15.00
piano	200.00
chair	3.00
marble table top	2.50
mantle glass	50.00
16 engravings	50.00

Hall

set of furniture	10.00
carpet	8.00
iron safe	30.00
hat rack	10.00
umbrella stand	1.00
2 sheep skins	1.00

Dining Room

carpet on floor	20.00
walnut extension table	10.00
cloth sofa	6.00
rocker	2.50
marble table top	8.00
arm chair	3.00
sofa in pyreen	15.00
2 chairs	4.00
2 chairs	1.30
book case	10.00
marble top table	4.00
buffet	10.00
mantle cloth	15.00
looking glass	7.00
table	.50
table cover	1.00
8 pictures	12.00

Kitchen

cooking stove	15.00
kitchen furniture	15.00
stair carpet	10.00
stair rods	4.00

Bedroom 1

carpet	9.00
bed, bedstead, hair	30.00
matress, mat	
bureau	12.00
bureau	15.00

arm chair

1.50

4 chairs

2.00

secretary

5.00

marble top table

5.00

washstand and fixtures

5.00

wardrobe

10.00

2 pictures

1.00

ornaments

.75

Hall second story

carpet

1.80

Small bedroom

lounge

5.00

5 chairs

2.50

looking glass

1.50

table

2.00

matting

1.00

Bathroom

furniture

5.00

Bedroom 2

bed, bedstead, hair

30.00

matress

20.00

wardrobe

10.00

bureau

10.00

bureau

5.00

4 chairs

2.00

carpet

washstand and furniture

5.00

ornaments

1.00

curtains

1.00

Bedroom 3

40 yds carpet

30.00

bed stead and bedding

30.00

wardrobe

25.00

washstand and fixtures

15.00

round table

.75

dressing table

15.00

4 chairs

12.00

arm chair

8.00

card table

4.00

mantle ornaments

5.00

3 curtains and shades

10.00

Bedroom 4

feather bed

15.00

bureau

3.00

table cover

1.00

carpet

3.00

table cover

1.00

4 chairs

2.00

wash stand and fix.

5.00

Samuel Butler  
Inventory 12/402

Bedroom 4 cont'd

looking glass	1.00
wardrobe	6.00
lot of books	4.00
furniture	10.00
furniture	10.00
chest	1.50

Attic

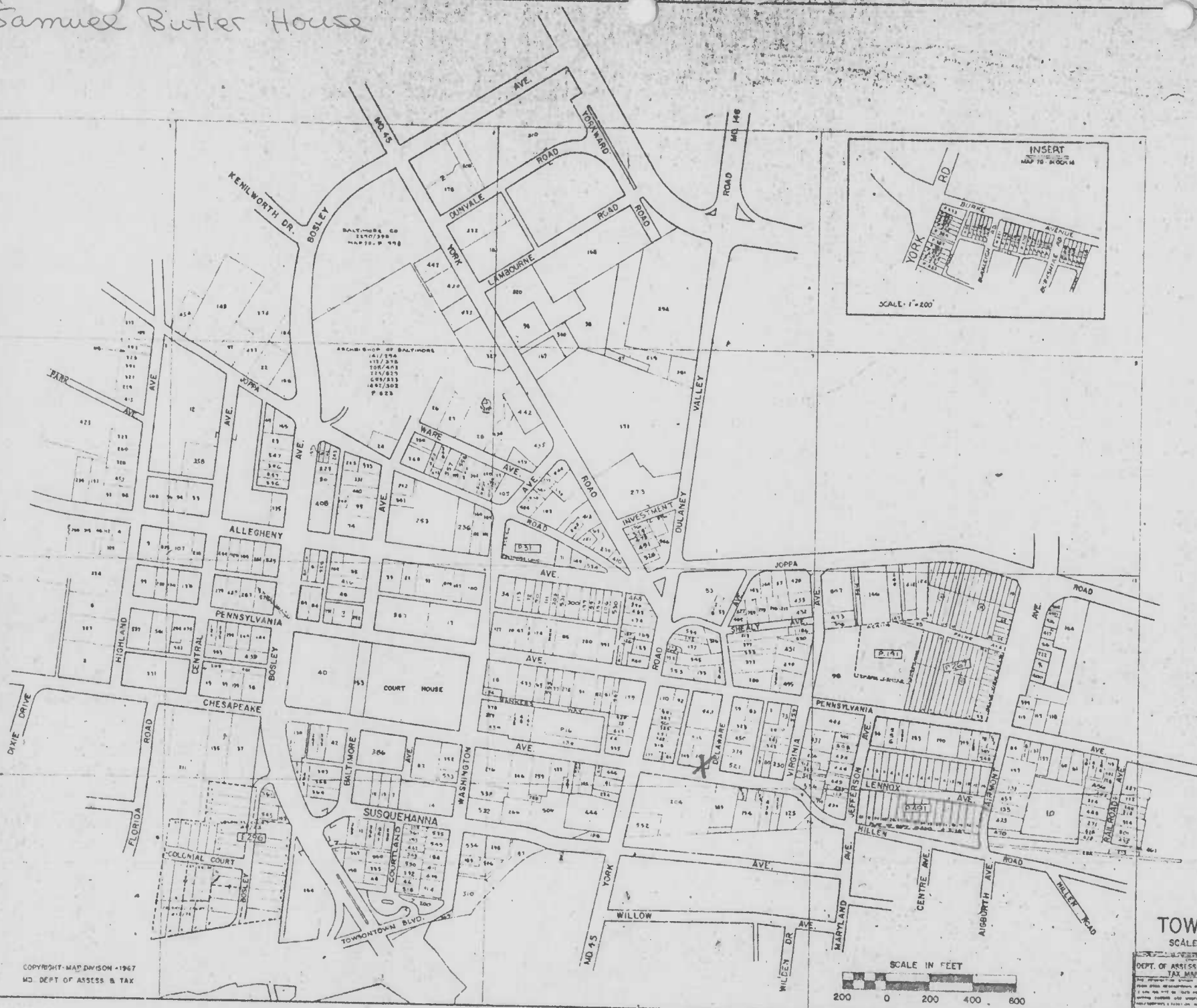
chair and matting	5.00
silver ware	90.00

1/16 interest in Schooner Thruman	1600.00
1/16 interest in Schooner Shickiry	1000.00
House linen	30.00
28 shares second national bank at 1.40 a share	3920.00
bond	385.00
lot of ground on s.s. of Pleasant St. 72'x50' stone brick dwelling house annual ground rent of 24.00	3500.00
cash in house	25.00
cash in bank	200.00
Total amount of appraisement	9020.30

TITLE SEARCH FOR SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY  
parcel 245

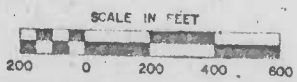
<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
583	111	October 25, 1923	Harry F. Phipps et.al.	Milford Smith & wife
Beginning...southeast corner of Richard Willis lot...center of an alley 16' wide...north side of Chesapeake Ave...East 154' to Delaware Ave...West 90' to place of beginning containing 13.86 sq. feet.				
565	57	November 6, 1922	Clarence A. Hildebrand & wf. Harry F. Phipps et.al.	
513	399	July 12, 1919	David C. Standiford & wf.	Clarence A. Hildebrand & wf.
325	223	January 25, 1908	Mary Butler	David C. Standiford
68	360	November 23, 1870	Mary Payne et.al.	Mary Butler Wife of Samuel Butler

# Samuel Butler House



COPYRIGHT-MAP DIVISION-1967  
MD. DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX

TOWSON  
SCALE 1"=200'



DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
TAX MAP DIVISION  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND  
MADE TO ORDER BY THE TAX MAP DIVISION  
DATE: 10/1/70

BA-1470

MAP NO.  
70A

# PLAN OF TOWSONTOWN.

**TOWSONTOWN.**

Real Estate Agent.

H. L. BOWEN,

Surveyors and Engineers.

WHEELER & MELANE.

Dr. Bosley

BALTIMORE

SUSQUEHANNA

CHESAPEAKE

COURT  
HOUSE

PENNSYLVANIA

AVE

ALLEGHENY

AVE.

WASHINGTON

C. H. Mann  
SMEDLEY  
HOUSE

Enos Smedley

E. Smedley

YORK

AVE.

AVE.

ROAD

ROAD

Mrs. M. A. Shealey

Ware Heirs.

Scale 200. Feet per inch.



DELAWARE AVE.

AVE.

VIRGINIA

JEFFERSON

EPSON  
M. E. CHURCH

AVE.

Chew

Chew



BA. 1470

SAM<sup>c</sup> BUTLER HSE.  
E.

W. NIELD  
Sep. 78





BA-1470

SAM<sup>L</sup> BUTLER ASE  
E.

W. NIELD  
SUM-78



BA-1470

SAM'L BUTLER HSE  
S. FACADE

W. NIELD  
Sump-78



BA - 1470

Saml. BUTLER Hsc.  
S.E. CORNER

W. Nield  
Sep. 78